

SEXUAL CONDUCT WITH A MINOR AMENDMENTS

2016 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Johnny Anderson

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies the Utah Criminal Code by amending provisions relating to sexual offenses against minors and children.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- provides that forcibly kissing the mouth of a person under the age of 18 is a criminal act;
- provides that the severity of the penalty is based on the age of the victim; and
- makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

76-9-702, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 210

76-9-702.5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 278

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **76-9-702** is amended to read:



76-9-702. Lewdness.

(1) A person is guilty of lewdness if the person under circumstances not amounting to rape, object rape, forcible sodomy, forcible sexual abuse, aggravated sexual assault, or an attempt to commit any of these offenses, performs any of the following acts in a public place or under circumstances which the person should know will likely cause affront or alarm to, on, or in the presence of another who is 14 years of age or older:

(a) an act of sexual intercourse or sodomy;

(b) exposes his or her genitals, the female breast below the top of the areola, the buttocks, the anus, or the pubic area;

(c) masturbates; ~~[or]~~

(d) without permission, forcibly kisses the mouth of a person who is 14 years of age or older but under the age of 18; or

~~[(d)]~~ (e) any other act of lewdness.

(2) (a) A person convicted the first or second time of a violation of Subsection (1) is guilty of a class B misdemeanor, except under Subsection (2)(b).

(b) A person convicted of a violation of Subsection (1) is guilty of a third degree felony if at the time of the violation:

(i) the person is a sex offender as defined in Section 77-27-21.7;

(ii) the person has been previously convicted two or more times of violating Subsection (1); or

(iii) the person has previously been convicted of a violation of Subsection (1) and has also previously been convicted of a violation of Section 76-9-702.5.

(c) (i) For purposes of this Subsection (2) and Subsection 77-41-102(17), a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a charge under this section that is held in abeyance under Title 77, Chapter 2a, Pleas in Abeyance, is the equivalent of a conviction.

(ii) This Subsection (2)(c) also applies if the charge under this Subsection (2) has been subsequently reduced or dismissed in accordance with the plea in abeyance agreement.

(3) A woman's breast feeding, including breast feeding in any location where the woman otherwise may rightfully be, does not under any circumstance constitute a lewd act, irrespective of whether or not the breast is covered during or incidental to feeding.

Section 2. Section 76-9-702.5 is amended to read:

76-9-702.5. Lewdness involving a child.

(1) A person is guilty of lewdness involving a child if the person under circumstances not amounting to rape of a child, object rape of a child, sodomy upon a child, sexual abuse of a child, aggravated sexual abuse of a child, or an attempt to commit any of those offenses, intentionally or knowingly does any of the following to, or in the presence of, a child who is under 14 years of age:

(a) performs an act of sexual intercourse or sodomy;

(b) exposes his or her genitals, the female breast below the top of the areola, the buttocks, the anus, or the pubic area:

(i) in a public place; or

(ii) in a private place:

(A) under circumstances the person should know will likely cause affront or alarm; or

(B) with the intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of the actor or the child;

(c) masturbates;

(d) under circumstances not amounting to sexual exploitation of a child under Section 76-5b-201, causes a child under the age of 14 years to expose his or her genitals, anus, or breast, if female, to the actor, with the intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of the actor or the child; [or]

(e) without permission, forcibly kisses the mouth of a child under 14 years of age; or

~~[(e)]~~ (f) performs any other act of lewdness.

(2) (a) Lewdness involving a child is a class A misdemeanor, except under Subsection (2)(b).

(b) Lewdness involving a child is a third degree felony if at the time of the violation:

(i) the person is a sex offender as defined in Section 77-27-21.7; or

(ii) the person has previously been convicted of a violation of this section.